

SULLIVAN, THE HATTER, LAGONDA HOUSE!

THE ONLY

FIRST-CLASS HATTERS OF SPRINGFIELD

Carrying a stock unequaled by any other house in Central Ohio, and prices guaranteed from 50 cents to \$1.00 less than any other house in the State.

No matter what prices other merchants make, we will go you from 50c to \$1 better on Fine Hats, even if we lose.

GENTLEMEN WHO APPRECIATE FINE GOODS WILL BE MORE THAN REPAYED TO VISIT OUR STORE

And examine the finest grades in KNOX, YOUMAN, SILVERMAN, PRICE, SHERMAN and DUNLAP'S Goods. Also,

OUR OWN HAT, SPECIALLY MANUFACTURED FOR US, AND GUARANTEED

In every respect. We will also show you a stock of the newest designs in

FRENCH AND BALBRIGGAN UNDERWEAR!

And a beautiful line in the latest shapes in London and Paris Neckwear, at prices which are lower than inferior goods are sold for elsewhere. Our stock of Silk Umbrellas, Lisle and Kid Gloves, Domestic and Imported Hosiery, Fancy Shirts, and, in fact, everything that comprises the outfit of a well-dressed man, can be purchased here, at prices that defy competition.

FARMERS

Will find an immense stock of Fur and Wool Hats at 50c, 75c, \$1, \$1.50, which are sold elsewhere at nearly double the money. Also, an endless variety of Straw Planters at 10c, 15c and 20c; they are the best value you ever saw; this department is now complete, and the most fastidious can be suited.

MECHANICS

Who like to make every dollar count would do well to let other dealers alone who charge 15c and 25c for Caps which we sell at 10c. Our city having so many mechanics, we have catered to their wants and have a full line of shop hats at 50c that make other dealers blush when placed alongside their goods. For Dress Hats, notice appears elsewhere.

YOUNG MEN

Who like to keep pace with the times, surely cannot help but patronize us, for all the novelties to be found in the New York and Boston markets we receive as soon as out, and after we have been showing something new for nearly a month, other merchants are then just receiving them. "Chestnuts" we do not handle. We leave them to old time merchants.

FOR THE BOYS: WE HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN TO LAY IN STORE AN ABUNDANT SUPPLY OF STRAW HATS!

From the nominal sum of 5c to the best in the United States, you will find here, and to describe the different styles and shapes would take more space than we are allowed. Mothers who anticipate to do the purchasing would do well to give us a call: for, like the gentlemen, we can convince you that you can do better with us than anywhere else in the city. We are strictly One Price, and endeavor to see that all customers are promptly and politely waited upon. Goods are shown with pleasure, so all we ask is for you to give us a call.

RESPECTFULLY,

SULLIVAN, THE HATTER, LAGONDA HOUSE.

RAMBLER'S NOTE BOOK.

A Running Fire of Comment on Events of Local Importance.

The Gas Problem in Springfield—It Found It Will Make All Our Fortunes—Gas or China?—A Springfielder's Criticism of Ruddygore and Hoyt's Hole in the Ground—Congratulating Springfield—Something about A. E. Wagner—The Wheeling Boom—Lecture Event—Notes.

"Holy smoke," said a somewhat excited but energetic and reliable citizen who has just returned from a week's travel in which he visited several of the booming towns in northern Ohio, "if we should strike a good flow of natural gas in Springfield, we would have a boom here which would far exceed that of the northern Ohio towns, as the sun outlines a penny candle. Findlay is a little democratic hole which has not yet been advanced beyond the grade of a village. They only claim about 5,000 inhabitants up there, and some of the manufacturing concerns which they set great store by, make a Springfielder laugh, when compared with the great plants of Springfield. Findlay is a city in perspective and the present prices of real estate have discounted the future for many years.

Many of the longest headed citizens here in Springfield confidently believe that we will have natural gas at our doors from local wells inside of a year. The geologists have told us to be sure that Springfield is out of the gas belt, but after all, what do they know about it? One of the ablest geologists in Ohio visited northern Ohio some years ago, and examined the geological formation there thoroughly. When he got through, he said no use gentlemen, there is no gas or oil to be obtained here, you might just as well save your trouble of boring for it. Now the very spot which was pronounced to be without gas by an eminent geologist, has proved to be the very heart of the gas belt. Springfield has excellent chances of getting gas if wells are bored in the right place and deep enough.

An intelligent farmer said the other day: "A neighbor of mine, west of the city, was boring a well some years ago, and when he reached a certain depth some gaseous fluids came

from the ground with a force and volume that scared the well digger out of his senses and he rushed off as if old Nick was after him. There is no doubt that the hissing sound was caused by escaping gas. Small veins of this kind are frequently found near the surface. In Findlay there is a house in which the owner, burned gas for thirty years in his fire place, conducting it by means of a zinc barrel from a vein of gas which he had struck while digging a well.

The Champion folks are still boring, and their well is nearly 3,000 feet deep at present. Their motto when they started the well was, "gas or China," and it is not improbable that the result will be gas. In my opinion I believe that the likelihood of there being gas in Snyder's bottom, where the brigade encampment was held. Oil has been found flowing out of the surface of the springs and the water of the creek in that vicinity, and the fact proves that there is oil in the vicinity. Where there is oil there is gas, as a general thing. Mr. Snyder has

been advised several times to bore for gas, and may decide to do so. It would be much better if a company was formed in Springfield on the same principle as those formed in other places, with a capital say of \$50,000. Capitalized in shares of stock of \$100 each, the expense would not fall on one man, and the experiment would be a failure. Several Clark county farmers are considering the sinking of wells on their farms. It is a wonder that the experiment has not been already tried when it is remembered that a good big gas well would prove of far greater value to the owner than a first-class gold mine. A recently discovered gas well in Northern Ohio belched forth 500,000 worth of gas in six weeks' time recently, estimated at the same rate as manufactured gas in Cincinnati. Think of finding a monster like that near Springfield.

Few citizens in Springfield realize the immense and overwhelming importance which natural gas would prove in manufacturing. Property-holders can realize what it would be when it is stated that the instant a big gas well is struck in Springfield, every foot of property in the town will jump as if by magic.

DOUBLE THE PRESENT VALUE. and some property to three, four or five times present values. The northern Ohio gas towns are more or less on a wildcat basis. If the gas gives out much of the land now selling as choice town lots will be used for its same old uses, as cabbage and corn land. In Springfield, however, property has a permanent and high value, because Springfield is the sixth city in size in the state, and its manufacturing importance stands very near the head. Put a natural gas boom on top of this and you would have a boom which would discount Birmingham, Ala., and Chattanooga. Springfield is larger than Birmingham and the same size as Chattanooga.

Of course we will have natural gas in Springfield before two years by piping it from the great gas wells of northern Ohio, provided we find none of our own. You remember the Northwestern Gas company which wanted the Springfield council to grant them the monopoly of supplying Springfield with natural gas. I understand that this company is a spin of the Standard Oil company and that the Standard Oil controls the company absolutely. It is said that this gigantic company has already grabbed three-fourths of the best natural gas territory in northern Ohio, and it expects in a few years to be doing it out at high prices to every city in Ohio. The Standard Oil piped gas to Youngstown, and is supplying hundreds of residences and factories with it there. They contemplate the same move with regard to Dayton, Columbus and Springfield. The city council of Springfield should consider along time before they grant any individual a monopoly of supplying Springfield with natural gas, and if given at all, it should only be given for one or two years. We may find gas at our very doors, or may have an opportunity of making a remarkably cheap contract inside of a year. Natural gas is piped a distance of 5 miles from the Pennsylvania fields to Buffalo, N. Y., and we may yet see every house in the Ohio cities burning it in the next few years. As yet it is a new experiment and with constantly changing conditions some remarkable developments may be looked for in the questions of piping and using natural gas.

The big rush of people to the cemetery to enjoy balmy Easter Sunday, shows how much we need a park. The beautiful grounds at Fenwick are now doing double duty as a cemetery and a park. They will be crowded every Sunday this summer, es-

pecially now that there is a street car line to the very gate. This will probably prove the best paying branch of the street car system in this city. A park should be all means be created before the price of real estate in Springfield advances beyond the point where a good sized park would be remembered as the great big gas well would prove of far greater value to the owner than a first-class gold mine. A recently discovered gas well in Northern Ohio belched forth 500,000 worth of gas in six weeks' time recently, estimated at the same rate as manufactured gas in Cincinnati. Think of finding a monster like that near Springfield.

"How do you like Ruddygore and Hoyt's 'Hole in the Ground'?" Mr. R. T. Nelson said. "I heard both in Cincinnati, recently," said the well known editor and musician, "and was delighted with both of them. Ruddygore is filled with delightful music. The opera parades more of the grand opera character than any opera I have heard of Sullivan's. There are really some grand numbers in it, and several with popular melody which makes them favorites immediately. I think we may look for Ruddygore in Springfield for a season."

"Hoyt's 'Hole in the Ground' is as funny and original as the 'Bag Baby' or 'Parlor Match.' The satire on railroad travel is delightful. The lunch-counter comes in for its full share of fun. For instance, the 'kicker' boys several doughnuts at the lunch stand, and after trying in vain to chew one, he sets up a peep in the floor and commences playing poops with the doughnuts. They fall to the floor with a beseeching character, but any opera I have heard of Sullivan's. There are really some grand numbers in it, and several with popular melody which makes them favorites immediately. I think we may look for Ruddygore in Springfield for a season."

"The fair ground already wears a beautiful appearance and looks like the handsome natural park that it is. Several improvements have been made during the past year. A long row of new stalls have been erected against the south fence, and a good deal of general cleaning up has been done. Several men have been busy digging out the trenches draining the track this week, and the track itself will be put in good condition very soon. A visitor to the fair ground last week states that he saw several young fellows in tight-fitting spring running. From this it would seem as if we will have several sprinting machines in the near future. It is probable that there will be several more on July 4th, when the big entertainment comes off there."

While waiting for a train at Carey, Ohio, recently I saw a gentleman of medium height and solid build standing in the door of the principal hotel of the place. He wore a stove-pipe hat and was faultlessly dressed. Something about his figure struck me as being familiar, and when he turned around I was not surprised to see that it was Rev. A. E. Wagner, formerly of this city, whose resignation here, together with the accusation brought against him by a young lady last year, are fresh in the minds of the Springfield public. Mr. Wagner greeted me very pleasantly, and stated that he is doing well in Carey, Ohio. He asked after Springfield and was interested to hear about his friends here.

One of the citizens of Carey said to me afterwards, "Wagner? Oh, yes, he's doing well here. You know he commenced to study law in Carey. He will be admitted to the bar next fall. He is justice of the peace up here and is one of the most prominent men in the town. You see that land some three-story brick residence over there, the one with the large grounds I mean. He lives there with his wife's relatives. Mr. Wagner is doing a good deal in the way of real estate speculation in Carey just at present."

It is stated that Dr. Leonard will lecture on the Upan tree at Urbana, April 19. This is the first intimation that Upan trees grow wild in Urbana, but perhaps it is only the stump of one that the doctor will lecture on.

DEAR BORN. "Valuable little piece of dirt this," said a well known real estate man as he stood gazing admiringly at Trapper's corner, at Market and Main streets, and thoughtfully lit a cigar. "Well, what is it worth?" asked a curious bystander.

"I should estimate its value at \$1,100 per front foot," said the real estate man, "there is not a more valuable corner in the city than that, although several corners are worth nearly as much. This high value is due to the fact that it is a corner of a man with natural gas. The business and manufacturing will not be here to sustain them for several years, if ever. We fellows are big fools for paying such big prices for real estate here, and our only chance to make money is that some bigger fool will come along and pay us more money than we paid."

The following special from Millersburg, from county correspondents, writing at that point, gives such a delightfully naïf and graphic account of the oil fever striking a country town and setting all the villagers wild, including the village judge, is so strikingly told that reading it is like standing at the bedside of a man with natural gas fever and noting the symptoms. It is worthy of Artemus Ward:

"MILLERSBURG, O., Apr. 8. [Special]—The oiling creek for gain in the way of speculation in the oil fields of northwestern Ohio has struck Millersburg, and struck it hard, and consequently a syndicate of capitalists who have spare money have put in \$25,000, which was expressed last night to the oil fields of the northwest, and the whole syndicate left on the same train with the cash, and with it will buy a tract of land near Welker, a small village north of Findlay, in the woods, which is said to be the source of active operations in the near future. So say the speculators."

"Judge Stilwell is one of the party who got up the syndicate, and he got so excited over the matter that he journeyed out and closed in the temple of justice as a second party matter to money-making in the uncertain whirl of speculation. "It is hoped that their venture may prove profitable, but they should keep a weather eye open for sharks who are fishing for suckers in the waters of Northwestern Ohio and who would just as soon gobble on to a good fat goose from Holmes county as from anywhere else. Our advice to them is to hear the story of these land sharks, who are galloping in these by the thousands, and then discount their story by about 25 per cent; then go on."

"It is stated that one member of the syndicate has a tract of land near where the party went that he has had for some years and which he would like to put in at oil land prices."

Our townsman, Mr. Thos. J. Kirkpatrick, has a natural reputation as an authority on bicycles and wheeling. The bicycle which he invented is known all over the country and is used by the best wheelmen. He sold the patent rights for a handsome sum to the Pope Manufacturing company.

If the tri-cycle factory in the west end could get some patents under which to manufacture full size high grade bicycles, a big industry could be added to the manufacturing interests of the city.

Springfield now has a concert hall run on the principle of the Over-the-Rhine saloons and music halls in Cincinnati. It is a large beer hall centrally located, and has a new team of variety performers, song and dance men, warblers of musical specialty people, each week. There is a change of bill every

the pants pockets of Columbus music lovers last week and got \$5,000 for one performance.

There can be no doubt that the reason why "Squire Frank Lightmyer" ran ahead of his toilet in such fine style at the recent election, was on account of his masterly performance of the role of "Squire Green" in the Hoosier Old Fellows, recently. People who saw the calm deliberative wisdom and judicial foresight which he flung into his portrayal of the character of "Squire Green" went away in a body and voted for him.

The gas and oil fever is epidemic in Ohio just at present and many thousands of dollars have already left Springfield for investment in the booming northern Ohio towns. Of course this investment is more or less risky. A heavy operator in Findlay real estate said to me the other day: "Yes, investment here is more or less risky at present values. These values are fictitious and speculative. The business and manufacturing will not be here to sustain them for several years, if ever. We fellows are big fools for paying such big prices for real estate here, and our only chance to make money is that some bigger fool will come along and pay us more money than we paid."

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week. This marks a new era in the saloon business in Springfield, and the New Era should promptly mark it.

The lecture event of the entire year will take place at Black opera house next Monday evening, when General Lew Wallace will lecture on Turkey and the Turks, for the benefit of the Young Ladies' Missionary society of the Second Presbyterian church. If all in Springfield who have been thrilled by that master-work of fiction, "Ben Hur," is present, as it is likely they will be, Black's opera house will be unable to hold the people. Ben Hur has already reached a sale of 165,000 copies and will probably prove the most popular work of the kind ever written.

To hear a great man like General Wallace, a soldier, a statesman, a scholar, a poet, and, above all, a great genius—is the event of a life time. To hear a great man and commune with his intellect, if only for an hour or so, has a profound effect on one's mind which can only be compared to the rubbing of common iron on a powerful magnet—it becomes itself magnetized by the mere contact. No one in Springfield can afford to miss this lecture, and the house will, of course, be packed.

RAMBLER.

LOCAL NOTICES.

Good Results in Every Case.

D. A. Bradford, wholesale paper dealer of Chattanooga, Tenn., writes that he was seriously afflicted with a severe cold that settled on his lungs; had tried many remedies without benefit. Being induced to try Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, did so and was entirely cured by use of a few bottles. Since which time he has used it in his family for all Coughs and Colds with good results. This is the experience of thousands whose lives have been saved by this Wonderful Discovery. Trial bottles free at Charles Ludlow & Co's, Drug Store.

An End to Bone Sucking. Edward Shepherd, of Harrisburg, Ill., says: "Having received so much benefit from Electric Bitters, I feel it my duty to let suffering humanity know it. I have had a running sore on my leg for eight years; my doctors told me I would have to have the bone scraped or leg amputated. I used, instead, three bottles of Electric Bitters and seven boxes Bucklen's Arnica Salve, and my leg is now sound and well. Electric Bitters are sold at fifty cents a bottle, and Bucklen's Arnica Salve at 25c per box by Charles Ludlow & Co.

The Best Salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all skin eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Charles Ludlow & Co.

Mrs. Logan says she is not writing a novel, and has not received one dollar of the salary due her deceased husband.

The reason why Acker's Blood Elixir is warranted, is because it is the best Blood Preparation known. It will positively cure all Blood Diseases, purifies the whole system, and thoroughly builds up the constitution. Remember, we guarantee it. Frank H. Coulter, corner Market and High streets.

The Robbins gas well at Lima was shot on Thursday, and threw a flame forty feet in length and fifteen feet thick.

"HACKMETAC," a lasting and fragrant perfume. Price 25 and 50 cents. For sale by F. A. Garwood.

Joseph Burch, a well-to-do farmer near Lima, O., killed his wife with a hammer and hanged himself.

SKIN AND SCALP

Cleansed, Purified and Beautified by the Cuticura Remedies.

For cleansing the skin and scalp of disfiguring humors, for itching, burning and inflammation, for curing the first symptoms of Eczema, Psoriasis, Miliaria, Scaly Head, Seborrhea and other eruptions of the skin and scalp, Cuticura is the great skin cure, and it cures them all. It is a new, original, elegant and infallible antidote to pain and inflammation. At all druggists. Price five for \$1.00 of Potter Drug Co., Boston.

A COMPLETE CURE. I have suffered all my life with skin diseases of different kinds and have never found relief until, by the advice of a lady friend, I used your valuable CUTICURA Remedies. I gave them a thorough trial, using six bottles of the CUTICURA. Result: Two boxes of CUTICURA and seven cakes of CUTICURA SOAP and the results are just what I had been told it would be—a complete cure.

WILLIAM W. WILKINSON, Richmond, Va. Kefauver, G. W. Latimer, Brimfield, Richmond, Va. I was troubled with Salt Rheum for a number of years, so that the skin surface came out of my hands from the Rheum. I tried many remedies and doctors' prescriptions to no purpose until I commenced taking CUTICURA Remedies, and then I was cured.

DRUGGISTS INDORSE THEM. Have sold a quantity of your CUTICURA Remedies. One of my customers, Mrs. Henry Kintz, who had letter on her hands to such an extent that she could not do her work, was completely cured by the use of your medicines.

ITCHING, SCALY, PINELY. For the last year I have had a species of itching scaly and pimply humors on my face to which I have applied a great many methods of treatment without success. I was cured by the use of your medicines.

NO MEDICINE LIKE THEM. We have sold your CUTICURA Remedies for the last six years and the medicines on our shelves give better satisfaction.

CUTICURA Remedies are sold everywhere. Prepared by the POTTER DRUG CO. and CHEMICAL CO., Boston, Mass. Send for "How to Cure Skin Diseases."

GRUBS. Pimples, Skin Blemishes and Baby Humors cured by CUTICURA SOAP.

Catarrh to Consumption. Catarrh in its destructive force stands next to and undoubtedly leads on to consumption. It is therefore singular that those afflicted with this fearful disease should not make it the object of their lives to rid themselves of it.

Descriptive remedies concocted by ignorant pretenders to medical knowledge have weakened the confidence of the great majority of sufferers in all advertised remedies. They become resigned to a life of misery rather than torture themselves with doubtful palliatives. But this will never do. Catarrh must be met at every stage and combated with all our might. In many cases the disease has advanced to such a point that the organs of hearing, of seeing and of taste are affected as to be useless. The system is debilitated, the throat so inflamed and irritated as to produce a constant and distressing cough.

SANBORN'S BLOOD PURIFIER meets every phase of catarrh from a simple head cold to the most loathsome and destructive stages. It is a blood and constitutional. Instant in relieving, permanent in curing, safe, economical and never fails.

Every package contains one bottle of the BLOOD PURIFIER, one box of CUTICURA SOAP and one BOTTLE OF CUTICURA. Price \$1.00. Potter Drug and Chemical Co., Boston.

KIDNEY PAINS. And that weary, lifeless, all-gone sensation ever present with those suffering from kidney troubles, backache and pains, aching in the sides, overworked or worn out by disease, debility or disipation are relieved in ONE MINUTE and speedily cured by CUTICURA AND PAIN EXPELLER, a new, original, elegant and infallible antidote to pain and inflammation. At all druggists. Price five for \$1.00 of Potter Drug Co., Boston.